

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A stent, comprising:
a material having structure to provide three-dimensional visualization of a surrounding tissue when said stent is inserted into said tissue and viewed under an imaging beam, said stent having:
 - (i) a single coating layer selected from a group consisting of:
 - (i) (a) a hydrophilic polymer, (i)(b) a hydrophobic polymer, and (i) (c) a fatty acid polymer, and
 - (ii) a density enhancing radiologic opacifier embedded into said single coating layer polymer, said single coating layer and said embedded opacifier material together providing a first Hounsfield image density suitable for viewing under a first image modality used during device insertion into a patient, and wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material is configured to elute from said single coating layer so as to provide a second Hounsfield image density suitable for viewing under a second image modality used for subsequent visualization of surrounding tissue.
2. (Withdrawn) The stent according to claim 1 wherein said coating includes a restenosis inhibiting drug.
3. (Withdrawn) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material comprises a dehydrated nonionic contrast.
4. (Previously presented) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material comprises a lyophilized iodinated contrast.

5. (Withdrawn) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material comprises a tungsten, tantalum, or barium contrast.

6. (Withdrawn) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material comprises a gadolinium based contrast.

7. (Withdrawn) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material comprises a lipidol or ethiodol based contrast.

8. (Withdrawn) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material is selected from the group consisting of inconel and metal glass.

9. (Withdrawn) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material is selected from the group consisting of nitinol and stainless steel.

10. (Previously presented) The stent according to claim 1, wherein said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material is selected from the group consisting of a robust plastic and a polymeric formulation.

11. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent is configured to elute said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material by bulk erosion, such that said stent has increased visibility than said stent prior to elution.

12. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent is configured to elute said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material by surface erosion, such that said stent has increased visibility when viewed under an imaging beam than said stent prior to elution.

13. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent is configured to elute said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material by diffusion, such that said stent has increased visibility when viewed under an imaging beam than said stent prior to elution.

14. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent is configured to elute said density enhancing radiologic opacifier material by degradation, such that said stent has increased visibility when viewed under an imaging beam than said stent prior to elution.

15. (Previously presented) The stent of Claim 11, wherein said imaging comprises CT.

16. (Previously presented) The stent of Claim 11, wherein said imaging comprises MR.

17. (Withdrawn) The stent of Claim 11, wherein said stent further includes a restenosis inhibiting drug.

18. (Withdrawn) The stent of claim 2, wherein residual radiographic density measurements of said stent provide a measure of said restenosis inhibiting drug still retained within said polymer.

19. (Withdrawn) A polymer for coating a medical device for temporarily increasing the radiological opacity of the medical device for x-ray examination, said polymer comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of a drug;

a density increasing radiologic opacifier material;

wherein said polymer is formulated to promote elution of said drug and said density increasing radiologic opacifier material from said medical device over time, and

wherein residual density measurements of said medical device provide a measure of said drug still retained within said polymer.

20. (Withdrawn) The polymer of claim 19, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of a hydrophilic polymer, a hydrophobic polymer, and a fatty acid polymer.

21. (Withdrawn) The polymer of claim 19, wherein the drug comprises a restenosis inhibiting drug.

22. (Withdrawn) The polymer of claim 19, wherein the density increasing radiologic opacifier material is selected from the group consisting of: gold, iodine, ionic and non-ionic iodinated compounds, ethiodol, lipiodol, barium, tungsten, tantalum, and gadolinium.

23. (Withdrawn) The polymer of claim 19, wherein the density increasing radiologic opacifier material comprises a lyophilized iodinated contrast material.

24. (New) The stent according to claim 1, wherein the density enhancing radiologic opacifier comprises a lyophilized density enhancing radiologic opacifier.

25. (New) The stent according to claim 1, wherein the stent has an image density of less than about 1200 Hounsfield Units.

26. (New) The stent according to claim 1, wherein the stent has an image density of less than about 400 Hounsfield Units.